

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION**

BERNADETTE WILLIAMS, et al.,  
themselves and on behalf of all others similarly  
situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

STATE FARM MUTUAL AUTOMOBILE  
INSURANCE COMPANY and STATE  
FARM FIRE AND CASUALTY  
INSURANCE COMPANY,

Defendants.

Case No.: 1:22-cv-01422

Judge Virginia M. Kendall

**PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO SEAL  
OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO EXCLUDE KIRK FELIX**

Plaintiffs, pursuant to Local Rule 26.2, , and the Stipulated Protective Order, ECF No. 121, ¶ 18, hereby move the Court for an Order allowing Plaintiffs to file under seal portions of Plaintiffs' Opposition to Defendants' Motion to Exclude Kirk Felix as well as the documents and evidence submitted in support of the Opposition.<sup>1</sup> Specifically, Plaintiffs request that the following documents be filed under seal and restricted from public access.

- Excerpts of Plaintiffs' Opposition to Defendants' Motion to Exclude Kirk Felix ("Merritt Opp."); and
- Exhibit 1 to Declaration of Andrew J. Shamis in Support of Felix Opp.: Excerpts of the Deposition of Douglas A. Graff, dated November 3, 2022, taken in *Chadwick v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, No. 4:21-cv-1161 (E.D. Ark.)

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<sup>1</sup> Plaintiffs take no position on the propriety of Defendants' and non-parties' confidentiality designations but file this Motion pursuant to Local Rule 26.2 and in recognition of Defendants' and non-parties' designations under the Stipulated Protective Order. ECF No. 121.

- Exhibit 2 to Declaration of Andrew J. Shamis in Support of Felix Opp.: Excerpts of the Deposition of Neal Lowell, dated November 10, 2022, taken in *Chadwick v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, No. 4:21-cv-1161 (E.D. Ark.)
- Exhibit 3 to Declaration of Andrew J. Shamis in Support of Felix Opp.: Excerpts of the Deposition of Marthinus Laurentius Marais, dated April 18, 2023, taken jointly for the following suits: *Wiggins v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, No. 8:21-cv-03803-DCC (D.S.C.), and *Chadwick v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, No. 4:21-cv-1161 (E.D. Ark.)
- Exhibit 5 to Declaration of Andrew J. Shamis in Support of Felix Opp.: Excerpts of the Deposition of Kirk Felix, dated February 3, 2023, taken in *Chadwick v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, No. 4:21-cv-1161 (E.D. Ark.)
- Exhibit 6 to Declaration of Andrew J. Shamis in Support of Felix Opp.: Excerpts of the Deposition of Kirk Felix, May 3, 2023, taken in *Clippinger v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, No. 2:20-cv-02482-TLP, (W.D. Tenn.)
- Exhibit 7 to Declaration of Andrew J. Shamis in Support of Felix Opp.: Exhibit 3 to the deposition of Megan Tunnell O'Rourke, dated April 13, 2023, taken jointly for the following suits: *Wiggins v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, No. 8:21-cv-03803-DCC (D.S.C.), and *Chadwick v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, No. 4:21-cv-1161 (E.D. Ark.)

The materials sought to be filed under seal by this Motion identified above references and discuss information that were designated “Confidential” by either Defendants (“State Farm”) or third-party, Audatex North America, Inc. (“Audatex”). Therefore, Plaintiffs discharge their obligation under Local Rule 26.2 and the Stipulated Protective Order by: (1) provisionally filing the documents subject to this Motion under seal; (2) simultaneously filing a public-record version of the Opposition to Defendants’ Motion to Exclude Kirk Felix and incorporated exhibits with only the sealed documents redacted or excluded; and (3) moving the Court for leave to file the

documents under seal. L.R. 26.2; ECF No. 121, ¶ 18. Because the materials Plaintiffs seek to file under seal reference information and documents that were designated confidential by Defendants and Audatex, under the Protective Order, “any disputed Confidential Information will remain subject to this Protective Order until a contrary determination is made by the Court.” *See* ECF No. 121, ¶ 16.

For the above reasons, Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Motion be granted and the Court enter an Order granting Plaintiffs’ request to file portions of their Opposition to Defendants’ Motion to Exclude Kirk Felix and supporting documents under seal.

Respectfully submitted on October 3, 2025.

/s/ Andrew J. Shamis

Andrew J. Shamis

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Class*

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Andrew J. Shamis, hereby certify that on this date, October 3, 2025, I caused the foregoing to be filed with the Clerk of the Court via the Court's CM/ECF system, which will provide electronic mail notice to all counsel of record.

/s/ Andrew J. Shamis  
Andrew J. Shamis